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publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they beef, locomotives, electrical machinery, must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Fourteen Words of Undiluted Wisdom.

Among the many recent utterances of wisdom and experience which the disfrom practical railroad men, what is more to the point than this brief sentence from an address delivered last president of the Delaware and Hudson the general list. Company?

"Political rate fixing would play havee generally, and business by lawsuit would be intolerable."

We commend to the attention of the Senate committee the entire address business. from which the foregoing sentiment is extracted. Mr. Willcox's remarks on the subject of further extension of the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission are not only distinguished by the epigrammatic quality here noted; they are freighted with sanity, reasonableness and common sense.

A Weak Defeuse.

The memorandum with which Governor Higgins accompanies his signature of the Stock Transfer bill is not a document which he will wish to include in any selection of his public papers. His given reasons for signing this indefensible measure are singularly disingenuous and futile. It is true that "similar taxes are levied in other countries"; but they are not levied on stock transactions of a particular locality. A uniform tax on all stock transfers may be economically bad as a tax on business, but at least there is no injustice in its incidence.

"It is generally conceded," says the Governor with the same disingenuousness, "that the imposition of a like tax by Congress during the Spanish war did not drive business out of the United States." That tax was not a "like" tax, as Governor Higgins knows perfectly well. It was a general tax, not one that New York had to pay and Hoboken, Boston, Philadelphia or Chicago had not to pay.

The Governor sanctions the imposition in peace of a tax cheerfully borne as a war measure, extraordinary and temporary. If such a tax is now necessary it has been made necessary by the extravagance of Republican State administrations and Legislatures and their unwillingness to let the people know, by means of direct taxation, who is paying

the piper. Governor HIGGINS closes his strange paper with a blundering admission that the stock transfer tax is "in some degree experimental." If it disappoints in the amount of revenue which it produces or proves "inimical to the welfare of the State," he trusts that the present session of the Legislature will create a tax and revenue commission to "suggest a more equitable and productive substitute."

With this ludicrous confession that he approves a tax which may be hostile to the welfare of the State, Governor Higgins ends a memorandum that should never have been begun. He would have done much better to sign and say nothing.

Our Trade in the Far East.

If our trade in the Far East maintains its present pace we may be able ere long to refer to it as Commerce, with a capital initial. American exports to Asia for the last three fiscal years stand thus:

1902...... \$68.944.077 1903..... 68,250,018 For the first eight months of the current fiscal year our sales in that area

were \$70,826,072.

mineral oil, \$2,220,000; manufactured tobacco, \$700,000; cotton cloth, \$440,000; electrical machinery, \$197,000; clocks and Doubtless some American goods find

The Straits Settlements is another market where we barely get a "look in." Singapore and Penang buy and dis- to-day had it not been made a field of tribute about \$150,000,000 worth of goods a year. Our sales in that market during 1904 were a little less than \$1,500,000. Our purchases were nearly \$15,000,000. It is time to make a change in the decimal points in our export figures.

about five times as much as we sell to it.

Our sales of \$2,000,000 to the Dutch East Indies in 1904 doubled those of 1903, but we bought from them \$19,500,000. During the fiscal year 1904 our sales to Hongkong were \$10,400,000, an increase of 20 per cent. over the preceding year. The eight months of the current year shows a slight falling off.

The increase in our trade in that area appears in Japan and China. On the antedate her increased purchases from basis of eight months of the two fiscal years our sales appear as follows:

Bight Mos. Eight Mos. 1906. China..... \$6,174,556 Kapan..... 15.043.331 in our sales to China and \$10,000,000 in from Mexico, \$128,000,000. our sales to Japan. The statistics thus A marked improvement in Mexican

included among those to "all other countries." The notable item is cotton cloth, which shows an increase for the period of \$12,700,000, and which alone represents 70 nearly half our sales to the Chinese Empire. Mineral oil shows an increase of \$1,350,000. The remainder of the increase is scattered through the list in items of various amounts, representing manufactured tobacco, hog products, canned

Trade with Japan shows the effect of the war. The notable item of increase is raw cotton, \$7,087,168, as compared with \$2,315,149 for the corresponding eight months of 1904. Cotton cloth increased cussion of rate regulation has elicited from \$15,000 to \$673,000, while mineral oil fell from \$3,286,000 to \$1,470,000. Other items, some showing increase and some showing decrease, are either not remonth in Boston by Mr. DAVID WILLCOX. ported in detail or are scattered through

Holding the present pace, our sales to Japan for the fiscal year 1905 should approximate \$40,000,000 and our sales to China \$45,000,000. A very pretty

The Religious Celebrations.

The closing of the Stock Exchange and of other exchanges both to-day, Good Friday, and to-morrow, Easter Even, is one of many indications of the increasing deference to formal conventions which is now paid in this country.

Besides the Christian fast and festival. there occurs almost simultaneously the Hebrew celebration of the Passover. This Jewish celebration began at sunset on Wednesday evening and will be ontinued for a week. Of the Jewish population in New York, amounting now o about three-quarters of a million, the number of the strictly devout, as indicated generally by attendance on the synagogues, may be relatively small, but the Passover as commemorative primarily of the slaying of Egypt's firstborn and of the exodus from Egyptian slavery appeals to the intense race spirit of the Jews, however wide may be their departure from their ancient faith.

The two Christian denominations most numerous in New York are those which have already given special regard to Good Friday and Easter. To one of these, the Roman Catholic, about a third of the population of the town is attached. The other, the Episcopal, contains more than one-quarter of the whole number of Protestant communicants, and it is gaining more rapidly than any other Protestant communion. Moreover, even the Protestant Churches which formerly rejected and repudiated this fast and this festival as of "Popish superstition," now pay heed to their celebration very generally.

As a consequence, the close of the Lenten season and the incoming of the Easter festival now receive formal and hearty recognition from the whole body of Christian believers in New York, and together with the Jews, who are celebrating almost coincidentally the Passover season, they make up the majority of the inhabitants of the town. This, therefore, has become a great holiday

This year the Easter season comes much later than usual and at a time of the year when the milder weather is favorable for such a general popular celebration. Easter Sunday will come to New York at the actual opening of the spring.

The late date in April at which Easter comes this year is very unusual. Only in three years of the last century was it as late or later: in 1886 on April 25, the latest possible date, in 1859 on April 24 and in 1848 on April 23. Nor in the present century will it be so late again until 1916, on April 23, in 1943 on April 25 and in 2000 on April 23. As the central of the movable feasts of the Christian year the time of Easter determines the times of all the rest.

Mexico With the Lid On.

For the information of those interested, and also for those who ought to be The annual imports of British India | interested, the Department of Commerce approximate \$350,000,000. Our beggarly and Labor has recently issued a monolittle \$5,000,000 trade with that land just graph dealing with commercial condiabout holds its own. It consists of tions in Mexico and with American commercial interests in that country.

The transformation of Mexico from an ever ebullient and sorely disorganized watches, \$150,000; builders' hardware, political institution into a land of peace, \$143,000; cars, carriages, &c., \$127,000; progress and prosperity has been one agricultural implements, \$65,000; paper, of the striking features of recent world \$57,000, and a variety of minor items history. From 1810 to 1876 Mexico was ranging from a few dollars up to \$25,000 | a land of war, tumult and civil strife. It in amount to make up the ramainder. was a land of perpetual revolt, with bloodshed and desolation as its ever attheir way to India by way of European | tendant spirits. In less than thirty markets, but the volume of possible years one strong man has given it a trade, the variety of goods which we now place among the nations, with every sell and the value of these goods point promise that it will hold its place. Its clearly to a large field open to American | relations with the United States are now exploitation. We buy from that country | close and intimate, and American activity has contributed much toward Mexican development. In fact, it is quite difficult to say what Mexico would be

American activities. While our political relations with our neighbor have been most amicable for many years, special interest centers in our contribution to and participation in her material development. In 1878 we bought from her \$4,346,364 worth of merchandise. In 1904 we bought \$43,-623,275 worth, or ten times as much. During the same time our exports to Mexico have increased from \$5,946,839 to \$45,844,720. The greater part of this increase has come during the last ten years. In 1894 our sales were \$12,842,149. Our increased purchases from Mexico us, and in 1894 we took from her a little more than \$28,000,000 worth of her products. Imports and exports are now fairly balanced, with a small margin in our favor. The total commerce for the 25,990,740 last three calendar years stands thus: This shows an increase of \$20,000,000 Exports to Mexico, \$182,000,000; imports

far submitted do not permit an analysis | conditions is now expected, although a which shows clearly the source of this little time may be required in a process great increase in the China account. As of adjustment. A recently issued dethere has been a falling off in some items | cree put into effect a measure passed by it would be necessary to account for an the Mexican Congress last December, increase of more than \$20,000,000 in the and Mexico will now put her finances on total of other items. A part of it ap- a gold basis. After May 1 the peso of a pears in \$2,750,000 worth of copper, the value of 50 cents in gold will become the sales of which to China have hitherto been standard of value, although the silver peso, or dollar, will remain as a circulating medium with unlimited legal tender power. The former system of free coinage is suspended, and "the emission of money of all kinds shall be reserved to the Executive," subject to laws for control and regulation.

From time to time assertions are made that successful self-government is impossible in any Latin-American country. The rule of such a man as PORFIRIO DIAZ is at least a very good substitute for that institution, and we could wish some of our other neighbors nothing better than a ruler made in his image and likeness. He has lifted his country out of the mire of revolution and insurrection and his people into a life from which they will not easily return to their former condition.

Censoring Billboards.

So little attention is paid by the pablic to billboards and dead wall advertisements hereabouts that the character of the pictures displayed on them is not a matter of lively interest. In other communities, however, considerable attention is directed toward this subject, and many communities enforce a strict censorship over all posters of this class that are displayed within their bounds. The Aldermen of Holyoke, Mass., have adopted a new ordinance prohibiting the exhibition of certain classes of theatrical posters. It is typical of all such enactments, and is worth reading:

" Every such licensee shall prevent his place of amusement and any performance or exhibition therein from being advertised by means of pictoria posters, placards or show bills which have not been approved by the City Marshal, or by some person designated by him. No posters, placards or show bills which are lewd, indecent or vulgar, or which pictorially represent the commission or attempt to commit any crime or bodily violence, shall be exhibited or displayed within the city; nor shall any theatrical exhibition, play or performance be advertised on any poster, placard or show bill within the city, by any name or title which indicates that the exhibition, play or performance portrays, represents, shows, enacts, or explains scenes of immorality or the commission of, or at tempt to commit, crimes against chastity. The City Marshal shall exclude all posters, placards or show bills which violate the above provisions."

The "licensee" referred to is the individual holding a city license for a place of amusement. Some cities have their marshals go about and paste strips of white paper over objectionable portions of posters, but Holyoke's Aldermen regarded this as tending to make their city ridiculous, and would have none of it. Their ordinance is a very strict one, however, and its enforcement would bother the owners of many theatrical organizations.

Mr. Roosevelt and the Iroquois Club.

The repercussions of the sounds of Jefferson Day oratory have not had time to die away before the Iroquois Club of Chicago prepares itself for the coming of Mr. ROOSEVELT, who is to be its guest in late May. "No Republican club shall take him away from us," says the Hon. CHARLES F. GUNTHER, president of the club; "we want to honor him as the first man in the nation, as the President of all the people, Democrats as well as Republicans," as "a typical American."

This welcome from a Democratio society which has been hot enough in its Democratic partizanship is honorable to the members of the club, to the personal qualities of Mr. ROOSEVELT and to the Democratic fairmindedness and appreciation of his eagerness for an all around "square deal."

It is also another bit of testimony to the prevailing onesidedness of national politics, the formlessness and nebulousness of Democratic policies and the willingness to let the new era of good feeling last as long as it can.

The subjoined autobiographic announcement and summary of experience will interest all students of Nature in her awful moods, and likewise of Col. WATTERSON. We copy from the editorial columns of the Courier-Journal:

" I have stood awestruck in the presence of the Everlasting, solemn, slient, impenetrable, as it rises out of the Infinite, and seems to stand watch and guard over the Ages, upon the unchanging lements of the Jungfrau and the Elder; have wandered heart-full, and sometimes tear-eyed, through the fastnesses of the Rockies and the Alps: have seen song and story reflected from hillion forest in the waters, about Storm King and The Dalles, about Bingen and Blennerhassett's

No doubt the Colonel has stood as stated. and has stood pat. Who would not have admired to see him standing awestruck on the Elder?

The World Famous Yreka Bakery.

From the Yreka Journal.
Old timers here contend that neither Gillig nor Noonan ever owned the Yreka Bakery. It was an opposition or new bakery opened early in 1855, where the Bee Hive store, opposite the Journal office, now stands, kept by Fred Heng. On being burned down the bakery was moved on Miner treet to the center of the same block, and changed hands several times, but was never owned or kept by either Gillig or Noonan.

Words of Eleven Syllables. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Referring to the letter from "E. S. E.," which appears in your issue of to-day, and to his statement that the long-

est word to write is "disproportionableness," what do you think of "disestablishmentalizationalisi"? It was, I believe, coined by Disraeli and applied by him to Gladstone, William A. Thompson. NEW YORK, April 20.

The Prayer of the Posts.

Our pens are poised in readiness To paint the fateful battle-shock; War's turmoil reigns Within our brains.
The Muse is waiting 'round the block;
But, Mars—don't let that sea fight have A name with syllables by tens.

To flowing verse Are long, unshaven cognomens O God of War!-don't make it, pray Begin with "sfwz"-and end next day!

We want a sweet, melodious word To give a rhythm to our lay, And not a dark Oriental bark That forms a paragraph "per se " So let bold Rojestvensky find A spot to tackle Togo's boats The name of which Won't cause a hitch And have a furrow in our threats.
Oh, let Natuna see the somp
Or else Formess. Mars, eld chap! POLITICS.

WASHINGTON, April 20 .- A fair knowledge of political conditions in Europe is possessed by a considerable number of Americans, yet few there he among us who have any knowledge whatever of the politics of our island neighbor. It is a general misfortune that there are many who think they know all about them. Thousands of our citizens have visited the island, and, having breathed its air, have returned with a conviction that they have also absorbed a competent knowledge of its politics. Many who would be sorely puzzled over many issues in the politics of their own land believe that by some mysterious intuition they have become experts in the political affairs of our neighbor. This eads to unfortunate results. The interests of the United States and Cuba are closely linked. Misconception in regard to insular conditions can only be followed by clouds in an atmosphere which should be clear. The Cuban campaign threatens to present features which will tend to separate the two countries rather than to draw them

together. A few days ago an American journal of standing and repute published an article, of more than a column in length, presumably for the purpose of furnishing information in regard to the situation in Cuba. It was permeated with gross inaccuracies. An initial declaration was that "a great party, with fair prospects of success, has complished something like organization out of various elements. Its energies are directed against Americans and Ameri-The writer of this assertion would have quite as much difficulty in proving its accuracy as he would have in proving the truth of his later statement regarding the transfer of sugar estates from Cuban ownership to the hands of "moneyed nen from the States."

"Cuba for the Cubans" is not a cry to which Americans should take any exception. It may be pro-Cuban, but that term is not a synonym for anti-American. For years there have been, and for years there will be, Cubans to whom the idea of annexation to the United States is as objectionable as a similar idea is to our neighbors on the north. In neither case does it signify a national enmity to the United States, or even anti-Americanism. The American who has gone to Cuba and found hatred or dislike to Americans and Americanism has merely encountered an individual expression which very probably had its root in some reasonable cause of offers. A competent investigation would have

shown the general falsity of any assertion of national anti-Americanism, just as a ompetent analysis would have shown that out of 174 sugar estates in operation ast year sixty-eight were owned by Cubans, ive by Cubans and Spaniards in partnership, two by Cubans and Americans in partnership and twenty-two by Americans. Of the entire sugar output of the island last season only 18.72 per cent. came from plantations which have been purchased by moneyed men from the tates." Out of the twenty-two reported as of American ownership more than half are owned by native Cubans who have become Americans by naturalization, and some of the remainder have been the property of Americans for many years,

For the reason that the commentator mmediately under consideration may be taken as typical attention may be given to another of his errors. That deals with political conditions in their party aspect. He refers to Cuba's political parties as the Radicals and the Conservatives. Cuban parties designate themselves as Liberals and Moderates. The Libera's are the successors of the former Nationals, and the Moderates are the successors of the Republicans. Sundry feeble attempts have been made during the last five years to organize a so-called Conservative party, but the organization has had little place in Cuban affairs. The line of difference in the alleged aims and purposes of Moderates and Liberals is exceedingly vague. Cuba is addicted to party organization rather for the purpose of forming a group at the head of which some particular leader may stand, than with the desire to emphasize some special policy.

Many have become dissatisfied with the administration of President Palma. For two and a half years he avoided any party affiliation. During the latter part of January of this year he announced his definite connection with the Moderate party. The step was political and was taken with a view to reelection. This led to the resignation of his Cabinet and to a split in the party. A strong faction declared its faith in José Miguel Gomez of Santa Clara, whom our misinformed commentator calls "a leader of Radicals." He is really the candidate of bolting Moderates and is likely to give Senor Palma a very hard run. The Liberal candidate is not yet openly in the field. Unless there shall come, as is possible, a coalition of Liberals and the José Mignel Gomez Moderates, Liberal support will probably be given to Gen. Emilio Nuñez. who would have the approval of Gen. Maximo Gomez, a weighty consideration. A very pretty little flirtation is going on between José Miguel and the Liberals, and they may yet get together. In that case the influence of Gen. Maximo would go to him. The old military leader is now at odds with his former friend, Senor Palma, to whom he gave loyal support in the election of 1901.

On party lines the Cuban Congress is now opposed to President Palma. The recently elected President of the Senate, Señor Manuel Sanguilly, is an Independent, which merely means that he is neither a Liberal nor a Moderate. The Vice-President of that body is Alfredo Zayas, a Liberal. The Senate stands with nine Moderates, thirteen Liberals and Señor Sanguilly. The Speaker of the House is a José Miguel Gomez Moderate, and the body consists at present of thirty-two Liberals, twentyfour Moderates and five Independents. In the thirty-two Liberals there are included the bolting Moderates of Santa Clara Province.

The ever ready tongue of scandal is particularly active just now with tales of discreditable political scheming on the part of the Administration and its little clique of active supporters, Capote, Zaldo and Parraga. It is declared that every effort is being made to create an official machine to be used, or misused, in the interest of Senor Palma. It is said that the flat has gone forth that none except loyal Palma Moderates shall hold office and that the faithful thus recognized are subject to an assessment of 2 per cent. per month on their salaries for the good of the cause. The Cubans have no need to come to us to study the game of practical politics.

Except that José Miguel Gomez is somewhat less disposed to bend a humble knee toward Washington than Estrada Palma is, there is no ground on which to charge him with anti-Americanism. President Palma has ever been listening for the crack of an American whip about his heels. Gomez would be more disposed to stand on the American declaration that "Cuba is and of right ought to be free and independent" and on the declaration of the Cuban Constitution that "the people of Cuba are hereby constituted a sovereign and independent

FACT AND FICTION ABOUT CUBAN State." He would probably say: "If that INTERMARRIAGE OF CHRISTIANS be anti-Americanism, crack your whip and make the most of it." He stands for Cuba, but is not hostile to the United States,

and he has many strong friends in this country and among Americans resident n Cuba. An effort will undoubtedly be made to play the United States in the Cuban camaign, and a propaganda in the interest of Mr. Palma may be looked for on this side of he Florida straits. For the welfare of the nutual interests of Cuba and the United States, amateur commentators should proseed with caution. They should not state, did the writer referred to in the foregoing, that Palma's message gave the increase in American exports under the reciprocity treaty as from 40 to 42 per cent., while the Bureau of Statistics in Washington reported the increase as 16 per cent. Neither said anything of the kind. Mr. Palma said that the United States supplied 401/2 per cent. of Cuba's total imports in 1903 and 421/2 per cent. of the total in 1904. The Bureau of Statistics reported that American exports to Cuba in 1904 exceeded

those of 1903 by 38.9 per cent. Amateur commentators should remember that mistakes in figures and in politics are exceedingly easy for those who don't know.

The Burlington Magazine for April.

The leading article in the April number of e Eurlington Magazine is devoted to an exhaustive consideration of the "Portrait of Philip IV.," the recently acquired Velasquez the Boston Museum, about the authenticity which picture there has been such a storm controversy the past few months. Mr. rancis Lathrop, the writer of the article, will hailed Daniel-wise by Bostonians particularly, and by Americans in general, since he upholds the evidence pro with his undisputed knowledge in the matter he discusses, and sweeps away the supposed evidence con with the brush of his scholarship. Mr. Lathrop was one of the committee of experts commissioned to examine this picture and report scopically and the article gives an interesting account of his confirmatory conclusions. Lathrop believes that the possession of this picture by an American museum is a reason for congratulation with our collectors and connoisseurs, inasmuch as it is a peculiarly rare example of a certain period in Velasquez's art about which hangs much mystery and obscurity. Moreover, it is an example of painting notable alike in its admirable qualities as a work of art and as marking a most important stage in the development and career of its artist. Mr. Lathrop's article is illustrated by an exquisite reproduction in photogravure, which forms the frontispiece of this number, and by five other plates in colletype, four of which are comparative

An article on "Archaic Chinese Bronzes, by Prof. C. J. Holmes, follows, and is of great interest, inasmuch as it traces the chronological sequence of such Chinese works of art, the literature on which subject has been exceedingly scanty. Prof. Holmes pays a compliment to American collections by suggesting that even more light may be thrown upon his subject when it becomes possible for study ome of the fine collections of Oriental objets d'art to be found in this country. The article s generously illustrated by five full page

The first part of Mr. J. Starkie Gardner's article on "Charles II. Silver at Welbeck' brings to notice a little-studied phase of the English silversmith's art. This article is Bustrated by reproductions of objects in the collection of the Duke of Portland, K. G.

Mr. R. S. Clouston's sixth article on "English Furniture Makers of the Eighteenth Century" concerns itself with the designs of Robert and Richard Gillow. says in concluding: "If Richard Gillow had thought it worth his while to publish a book of designs about the same time as Hepplewhite produced the 'Guide,' there might well be two opinions as to whose name we should now use in describing the style.'

In this number is begun Mr. Herbert P. Horne's illuminative biography of "Andrea dal Castagno," this first part being devoted to that artist's early life. So much confusion has existed concerning the life of this artist that an authoritative biography will be welcomed, inasmuch as it brings to light so many interesting things, the result of a vast amount of research upon the part of its writer.

Notes on Vario Under the heading of Works of Art" are several short articles of unusual interest by Mr. Roger E. Fry, Mr. James W. H. Weale and others. Miss May Morris's article on "The Ascoli

Cope" last month is followed in this number by one on "The Pienza Cope," another remarkable example of Opus Anglicanum. The April Burlington contains various editorials, communications, foreign correpondence, notes of forthcoming exhibitions the world over and a bibliography of current orks on art. In this department it is sigcant to notice the review, by Dr. S. W Bushell, of the superb de luxe "Catalogue of the Morgan Collection of Chinese Porcelains, the edition of 250 copies having been designed and executed by Mr. Robert Grier Cooke, New York, for Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan for rivate distribution. Probably no the sort has surpassed this volume in typography or illustration, its seventy-seven plates in color being remarkable achievements in the reproduction of objets d'art. There is little wonder that Dr. Bushell refers to this volume with enthusiasm.

"Universal Precedent."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: You are to be congratulated. You are doing a great work in this Equitable matter. They are nearly in the open.

Hyde's letter to Frick can be regarded only as a bold play by a desperate man. It was evident that this matter was coming He quickly takes this step, admits the ugly truths and thereby thinks to delude the comnunity into thinking that it cannot be anything very terrible that he has done, since he speaks of it so frankly. Able and ingenious; but it won't do! That letter carries its own

"Universal precedent"? There is the kernel of the whole matter. Undoubtedly there are directors in many large fiduciary institu-"Universal precedent"? There is the kernel tions who have the power to use the moneys of these institutions, and who do use them for their own profit. It can be done in several ways. In this instance the syndicate was formed apparently to underwrite—that is, to buy without advancing any money to speak of-securities, which securities they forthwith sold through themselves as directors of the Equitable to the Equitable at an enhanced price from the underwriting price, calmly putting this profit into their own pockets. It matters not whether they sold all or only a part of the securities they lying principle is the same.

is the kind of transaction which Hyde says has the sanction of universal precedent. He means it has the sanction of such directors of fiduciary institutions as have grown rich from just such methods. It has not the approval of any man possessed of even an ordinary sense of honesty. I hope that pub lic opinion, now aroused, will not rest. NEW YORK, April 20. OBSERVER.

Whittling Missouri Judge.

From the Kansas City Journal. Judge Pepper of Joplin is said to be the champion whittler of Missouri. Whenever engaged in the trial of a case Judge Pepper takes but his knife and. ecuring a soft pine stick, commences to whittle, Usually by the time court adjourns the court room

We welcome the Country Calendar, the latest ac cession to the number of beautiful magazines dealing with outdoor life and country pursuits. The May number, with which it opens its career, shows some notable contributors. Grover Cleveland, fisherman, writes of sport and outdoor life, John Burroughs of May, Secretary Wilson of the farmer, There are ciaborate articles on the roung golden cagle and on Mr. Whitelaw Reid's Ophir Farm, with shorter essays on bees and nitrogen and yachts and flower raising. The several sides of country life are attended to by separate departments, and short editorials call attention to matters of special interest. The illustrations are very numerous and very good. Mr. J. Horace McFarland's colored cover design of dogwood flowers is exquisite.

AND JEWS.

The Editor of the Jewish Encyclopedia

Calls for a Decision of the Question. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir The Jew ish layman, after reading in his newspaper-which, in most cases, is his only postgraduate textbook for the study of life-about one of the most burning questions of Jewish the ology, intermarriage, opinions so divergent as those represented by your two correspon dents, Messrs, Lazarre and Oppenheimer must feel some distress in his poor heart and head; for both of these organs are equally involved in this life issue of his race. To add his confusion he found in his paper of Monday last extracts from the sermons, held on the day previous, in New York and Chicago respectively, in the two most eminent syna-gogues of the United States, Temples Emanu-El and Sinai, one rabbi, Dr. Joseph Silverman, pitilessly condemning the fusion of Jew and Gentile, while Dr. Emil G. Hirsch seems to stretch his blessing hand over the loving

Gentile, while Dr. Emil G. Hirsch seems to stretch his blessing hand over the loving Judeo-Christian couple. A few historical and statistical facts on this subject culled from the Jewish Encyclopedia and the Aligemeine Zeitung des Judenthums of March 17 last may therefore be of interest to the general reader just at this time.

To begin with the Bible: The patriarchal law forbidding the descendants of Abraham to intermarry with the idolatrous Canaanites (Gen. xxiv. 3: xxvi. 34, 4c.) was confirmed by the Deuteronomic prohibition (vii. 3, 4). "Thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his [the Canaanites] soon, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son—for they will turn away thy son from following me that they may serve other gods." From Exraonward this prohibition was extended to all Genlies (Exra, ix., 1, 2; x., 10, 11; Nehemiah x., 3) and accordingly the Law was thus interpreted and codified by Maimonides, the great Spanish philosopher and Talmudist of the twelfth century. The many cases of Hibbical intermarriages with pagan women, as those of the patriarch Joseph and the great lawgiver Moses, himself, deserve at least passing allusion in this place.

Intermarriages between Christians and Jews were first prohibition was confirmed by the Church councils of Agdes (508) and Rheims (630), and the Kings Ladislaus I. and Andrew of Hungary (1077, 1233). The Great Sanbedrin convened by Napoleon I. in 1907 declared that "marriages between Israelites and Christians when concluded in accordance with the civil code are valid, and though they cannot be solemnized by the principal of the great Sanbedrin convened by Napoleon I. in 1907 declared that "marriages between Israelites and Christians when concluded in accordance with the civil code are valid, and though they cannot be solemnized by the principal of these of

and Christians when concluded in accordance with the civil code are valid, and though they cannot be solemnized by the religious rites of Judaism, they should not be subjected to the rabbinical anathema." The Rabbinical Conference of Brunswick, Germany, in 1844, declared: "The marriage of a lew with a Christian woman or with any adherent of a monothelistic religion is not prohibited if the children of such issue are permitted by the monothelstic religion is not prohibited if the children of such issue are permitted by the state to be brought up in the Israelitish religion." The great German reformer Abraham Gelger, however, in spite of his otherwise religious radicalism, as member of the first Jewish synod, held at Leipsic in 1860, declared himself against intermarriage "as being injurious to the peace of the home and to the preservation of the Jewish faith." The same position is taken by the great leader of American Reform Judaism, David Einhorn (Jewish Times, 1870), the late father-in-law of Dr. K. Kohler, president of the Hebrew Union College, and Dr. Emil G. Hirsch, the representative of the extreme left wing of religious radicalism, who avidently shares the opinion of his father, Rabbi Samuel Hirsch, who declared himself in favor of intermarriage.

who declared himself in favor of internarriage.

So much as to the doctrine. Let us now look
at the facts as they have developed within
the last two or three decades in central
and western Europe. In Austria there were
from 1986 to 1000 yearly 5,973 marriages between Jews, and 130 mixed wedlocks; in
Hungary during the same period 0,684 Jewish
and 448 mixed marriages took place. The
capitals of both countries are the storm centers. Thus, in Budapest every fitteenth Jew
marries a Christian woman, while already
every fourteenth Jewess is wedded to a
Christian.

n Germany in 1908 there were 3,831 rriages between Jews, 497 between Jews Protestants, and 138 between Jews Roman Catholics. In Prussia propers with Berlin as the natural center of gravere with Berlin as the natural center of grav. Instinct-there took place from 1893 to 1902 early 60? marriages between Jews, and 12 mixed marriages; i. e., every sixth Jew nod Jewess married out of the faith and acc. In Australia, England, Italy, France, weden and Denmark mixed marriages are fevery day occurrence. In Copenhagen In evers 1880-1891 they formed 35 per cent., n 1892-1903 45.6 per cent. of the Jewish marriages.

ages. Although the 5,180,000 (1897) Jews in Russia, Although the 5,180,000 (1897) Jews in Russia, shelve a few questions of purely professional character and to discuss instead with absolute frankness some of the vital problems facing the vast Jewish conglomeration of our country, thus continuing the glorious work of the Conferences of Philadelphia (1889) and Pittsburg (1885). The thoughts and feelings as well as the political, social and economic conditions of the 850,000 Jewish immigrants who landed on these shores from 1881 to 1904, and of their children born and raised in America, necessarily diverse daily more and more from the status of the brethren left behind. And in the same measure religion, this curious from the status of the brethren left behind.
And in the same measure religion, this curious
compound of metaphysics, psychology and
sconomics, takes another shape with the Yankee children of Israel. To formulate for their
practical use a religious platform in harmony
with the loftiest ideals of humanity and the
best principles of American citizenhood
should be the ambition of the next Sanhedrin
of Cleveland.

ISIDOR SINGER.

NEW YORK, April 19.

A Berkshire Business Man. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: In your editorial of to-day you omit to mention in connection with the Republican nomination for Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts the name of the Hon.
William Brown Plunkett of Adams. Here in Boston
we have learned to respect and admire the business ability of "favorite sons" of the Berkshire Hills. Governor Crane gave us great Republican plurali-tics and splendid administrations. We have practically decided to name for Governor the present Lieutenant-Governor, Curtis Guild, Jr., a man of many and brilliant attainments and a newspaper and Mr. Plunkett as his "running mate" is the man; and Mr. Plunkett as his running mate is the best suggestion thus far made. Mr. Plunkett is a man of the Crane type; a business man pure and simple, yet a Republican who was sufficiently esteemed by Mr. McKinley to act as one of his advisers during the framing of the McKinley bill.

If the Republican ticket is to be successful in the Bay State this fall, it will be so because the party has strengthened the tloket with a business man who will stand squarely upon the platform prepared by the Republican State convention. If

For my part I select Guild and any prominent Berkshire business man—a combination of Boston and Berkshire, a great Republican plurality and a splendid administration. "Gulld and Plunkett means victory. BOSTON, April 18.

Stern Criticism of Certain Shopkeepers. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: You speak in sarcastic manner of the proposition to license chers, &c., but when it is considered how great a change a few years have brought about in our community, in the type of the small store and shep keeper and of the racial and other characteristics of those who largely handle the meats, vegetables, fruit and even the bread which constitutes the material part of the daily food of the people, it would appear that there is now occasion for the intervention of some systematic official supervision.

The manner of transporting meats, &c., by the ond and express companies and the ordinary handlers is carcless, repugnant to good taste and often positively indecent, as is indeed true also of the manners and customs of dealing with vegetables, fruits, confectionery, &c., piled up or spr about on the sidewalk and the floor of the shop or booth and exposed to the contact of animals, dogs and cats and, through the medium of every passing breeze, to the desicoated fifth of the street, Smoking, a habit almost universally indulged in by shopkeepers, should also be interdicted. A little on will readily lead one to this co

In the Grand Stand. Knicker-Do you think ignorance is always bliss?

Booker-Not when you have to stop at the most aciting part of the game and explain to a girl why that man is running.

Bluebeard Explained. "It was the only way to keep her from house-cleaning that room," he said, Retreating to the Forbidden Chamber, he en-

St. Louis Fashion Note. From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat fitraw hats are not considered to be es-until strawberry shortcake in de frop.

WANT SUNDAY KEPT HOLY. Sabbath Committee Appeals for Enforce-

ment of Law or Its Repeal. The opening of the sporting season induced the Sabbath committee to issue an appeal yesterday for the preservation of Sunday. The appeal is signed by William W. Hoppin, chairman of the committee; A. G. Agnew, John E. Parsons, Eugene A. Philbin, Frederick Sturges, Robert L. Maitland, J. Edgar Leayeraft, Edward C. Parish, John F. Phayre, Joseph H. Chapman, Theodore Gilman, E. Francis Hyde, Gerard Beekman, W. M. Isaacs, William A. Smith, W. W. Atterbury, John Noble Stearns

and William S. Hubbell. "If the community does not desire the continuance of Sunday as a day of rest and religious uses, then the law is out of place and should be repealed," says the committee's appeal to the public. "Not a section here and a section there, but the whole law should be erased from the statute books. These laws are a complete whole and stand or fall together.

"The three offenders most difficult to deal with are the theaters, the ball players and the liquor saloons. The issue is squarely this: Can these persons carry on their business and their sports and Sunday preserved as a day of rest? Those who say deliberately. We want an open Sunsay deliberately. We want an open Sunday' are at least bonest and their position is logical; those who say, 'We do not want an open Sunday, but are in favor of open saloons, open theaters or public baseball games and sports' are illogical.

"Within the last three or four years, when the guine of corporate entertainments."

under the guise of concerts, entertainments of the stage have crept in, most of them of the stage have crept in, most of them vaudeville shows, steadily encrosching on the law, until now some thirty such places are open on Sunday.

Public baseball games are contrary to law in thirty-six States of the Union, including New York. They are invariably attended with noise and disorderly crowds.

Instead of keeping young men out of saloons these games too often help the saloon business.
"Statistics of Sunday arrests and Tues-

day arrests by the police show by com-parison the extent to which crimes of vio-lence are aggravated by the sale of liquor on Sunday.

"The direct tendency of these efforts to turn Sunday into a day devoted to public amusements appears in the recent revival of Sunday work. This can be seen on the amusements appears in the recent revival
of Sunday work. This can be seen on the
Lexington avenue improvements of the
New York Central Railroad, on the work
of the Pennsylvania Railroad tunnel on
Thirty-third street, on the Hippodrome
building at Sixth avenue and Forty-third

street and other places.

"A pleasure Sunday leads as directly to a labor Sunday here as in Europe. The ultimate result would be that one-half the community must work on Sunday in order that the other half be entertained."

GOES ON SPOONING BEANS. 835,000 Legacy Can Wait for Tom Smith to Wind Up His Contract.

Thomas Smith, a young Irishman, who presides over the lunch counter of a saloon at 685 Sixth avenue, was cutting a hot roast beef sandwich, price five cents the other morning, when an envelope bearing the Dublin postmark was handed to him. The letter contained a draft for £100 and the announcement that young Smith's father had died on March 19 and left him about £7.000. Smith put the draft and letter in his pocket and handed out a plate

letter in his pocket and handed out a plate of beans to the next man.

Smith is 28 and a man of silence. Somehow his story got out and to a SUN reporter yesterday he admitted that it was true.

His father, he said, was a dealer in woolen goods in King street, Dublin, and mortal fond of sports. At one time even, according to Smith, his father rode to hounds with the Prince of Wales, now King Edward VII.

VII.

The story is that about five years ago Smith fell in love with a Scotch girl who is a Presbyterian. He being a Roman Catholic her parents objected to the match and so he left for America. Smith now believes that when he goes back to Dublin in October to get his inheritance he will get the girl, too. The £7,000 he believes will make for religious toleration on the part get the girl, too. The 27,000 he believes win make for religious toleration on the part of his future parents-in-law. When asked how he could contain his soul in patience until October he said:

"I have a contract with me boss until

spoil; it will keep. Me lawyer and me three sisters in Dublin will take care of me

And Smith cut another hot roast beef. BOUQUETS FOR COMR. SHIELDS. Everybody From Judges to Scrubwomen

Congratulates Him. United States Commissioner John A. Shields, who celebrated yesterday the fiftieth anniversary of the day he began service in the office of the clerk of the United States Circuit Court, was kept busy all day receiving gifts and congratulations. His desk was full of flowers.

Early in the day Federal Judges Wallace Townsend, Lacombe and Coxe summoned the Commissioner to the court room and offered their compliments in the form of a resolution, which was given to Deputy Clerk S. D. Edick for entry on the records

of the court.

Later in the day the employees of the office, through United States Circuit Judge Townsend, presented to the Commissioner a traveling bag. Judge Townsend in his presentation speech said that in his lectures to Yale law students he had always referred them to Commissioner Shields of New York as the one man who had a complete knowledge of the Federal practise A gorgeous inkstand was given to the Commissioner by Mrs. Shields The women cleaners of the Federal Building, some of whom have been there as long as the Commissioner himself, came in and congratulated him. Commissioner Shields, in spite of his 66 years, is still the youngest man in his office.

BIDS FOR BARGE CANAL BONDS. Fisk & Robinson of This City Make High-

est Offer for Issue of \$2,000,000. ALBANY, April 20 .- Bids were opened at noon to-day for the sale of \$2,000,000 worth of canal bonds, the first bonds issued by the State under the Barge Canal Improvement act. The highest bidder was Fisk & Robinson of New York city, which firm bid for the entire issue at 102.313 and interest. This bid is for all or none, and

interest. This bid is for all or none, and the issue will probably be sold to them. Their bid is on a basis of 2.85 per cent. interest. Comptroller Kelsey considers this a very good offer.
Eight bids in all were received. The other bidders and their bids are: Moffatt & White, New York, \$2,000,000 or any part. 102.06 and interest; Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company, \$100,000 at 101.07 and \$200,000 at 100.57; New York State National Bank, Albany, \$50,000 at 108. Century Bank, New York city, \$1,000 at 101 and Interest; Hobart Krum, Schoharie, \$7,000 at 100 and interest; State Comptroller. \$7,000 at 100 and interest; State Comptroller as trustee for State funds, \$1,000,000 at par and interest.

Comptroller Kelsey this afternoon made award of the bonds to Fiske & Robinson

Betiring Load Co. Directors Reclected. At the annual stockholders' meeting of the National Lead Company in Jersey City yesterday four retiring directors, R. P. Bowe, C. F. Beale, G. O. Carpenter and C. F. Welles were redected. A resolution providing that if any of the preferred stock were retired it should be retired at no less than 140 was lost.

Flowers Asked for Blackwell's Island.

Mrs. Richard, M. Hunt requests those who have plants that they no longer want to send them to the Department of Charities, foot of East Twenty-sixth street, marked "For the Island Mission." Those plants will be put in the greenhouse on the island and cared for by the inmates of the various institutions.